

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BOGOTA 11055 292221Z

62

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USSS-00 /026 W

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O P 292024Z OCT 76

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8195

INFO AMEMBASSY PANAMA PRIORITY

S E C R E T BOGOTA 11055

EXDIS

PANAMA FOR RSS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEC, PINS, CASC, SOCI, CO

SUBJECT: KIDNAPPING OF AMERICAN EXECUTIVE: GUSTAVO CURTIS

SITREP NO. 18

REF: BOGOTA 10924

1. KIDNAPPERS CALLED NEGOTIATORS ON OCT 28. THIS TIME NEGOTIATORS USED MORE SOPHISTICATED METHOD OF CONTACT, INVOLVING TWO "THROW-AWAY" PHONE NUMBERS, TO AVOID TAPPING BY AUTHORITIES. JOAQUIN BARRERO, ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER OF INDUSTRIAS GRAN COLOMBIA, SPOKE WITH KIDNAPPERS AND TOLD THEM THAT THE DEMANDED RANSOM FIGURE WAS NOT REASONABLE AND THAT COMPANY WOULD HAVE DIFFICULTY BRINGING MONEY INTO THE COUNTRY. ALI (CODE NAME FOR CALLER) REPLIED THAT COMPANY KNOWS THE DEMANDED AMOUNT AND THAT WHEN NEGOTIATORS HAVE SOMETHING MORE CONCRETE TO SAY THEY SHOULD AGAIN PLACE THE RADIO AD. ALI THEN HUNG UP.

2. JAMES RAISEBECK, ATTORNEY FOR INDUSTRIAS GRAN COLOMBIA HAS OFFERED HIS ASSISTANCE TO NEGOTIATORS AND WILL PARTICIPATE IN FUTURE PHONE CONTACTS WITH KIDNAPPERS. RAISEBECK'S PARTICIPATION IS CONSIDERED A PLUS. HE IS A GOOD FRIEND OF CURTIS, IS BILINGUAL, BRIGHT, AND COOL IN DIFFICULT SITUATIONS.

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PAGE 02 BOGOTA 11055 292221Z

3. ADAMS-DALE WILL LEAVE FOR LONDON, PROBABLY ON NOV3, FOR

ONE WEEK TO CONFER WITH WALKER. JOE SMITH OF CONTROL RISKS
IN WASHINGTON, D.C. WILL COME TO BOGOTA TO FILL IN FOR HIM.
ON HIS RETURN TRIP, ADAMS-DALE WILL STOP IN BRUSSELS TO MEET
KLEIN. ALTHOUGH WE WERE NOT TOLD, WE SUSPECT THAT ADAMS-DALE
AND KLEIN WILL CONSULT WITH LINDSEY, WHO WAS SEARS CHIEF
NEGOTIATOR IN THE COOPER CASE AND WHO IS NOW STATIONED IN
BRUSSELS.

4. BY SEPTTEL WE ARE SENDING A NEW CODE CREATED BY ADAMS-DALE
TO BE GIVEN TO KLEIN FOR THEIR COMMUNICATIONS OVER OPEN LINES.
SANCHEZ

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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